

And do not fear for the Khilāfah. Indeed, Allah ('azza wa jall) will safeguard His religion and protect His slaves. And indeed, since the Islamic State's initial establishment more than ten years ago up until today, there has come upon it of trials, adversities, difficulties, and tremors what would devastate the mountains, including the loss of its leaders, the continuous deaths, the many who were imprisoned, and the loss of lives, property, and wealth. And it endured, by the grace of Allah alone, from one difficulty to another, and from one agony to another, and from one trial and adversity to another. And no calamity afflicts the

State except that the one who's informed of it says, "It will be destroyed." And it isn't long before it settles, and Allah alone knows how it settles, but that a calamity befalls it, so the one who's informed of it says, "The calamity won't end." Then Allah removes it, and the next one comes, so we say, "This is the one. This is the one." And so on. So no calamity descends except that the relief from it comes from where we never expected. We do not lose a commander, nor is one of our leaders killed except that Allah facilitates for his place to be taken by one who is good in leadership and continues the journey, to the extent that we are surprised at how well he performs, his tremendous bravery, his great level of mastery in what he does, and that he is more painful and infuriating for the enemies of Allah than the one before him, even though we had previously thought that we would not find someone that could take his place. So all praise be to Allah who fulfilled His promise, gave victory to His army, and who alone established this Khilāfah.

Shaykh Abu Muhammad al-'Adnani ash-Shami rahimahullah